



## WATER MANAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

### Information Exchange Bulletin

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### RESERVOIR OPERATION AND SYSTEM STATUS FOR MAR 2003

**HIGHLIGHTS** – Cairo stage began the month at 46.09 feet and ended at 25.18 feet. The basin generally dried out during the month ending flooding and allowing the evacuation of excess storage. Flood stage at Cairo is 40.0 feet. Snow packs have all melted. Ground conditions are getting somewhat dry in northern Indiana and Ohio.

**WEATHER** –The weather during March was warm and dry. Temperatures averaged a few degrees above normal for the month which helped to melt all the snow in the Ohio River basin. Precipitation amounts dropped dramatically from February's levels and averaged well below normal for March. Spotty areas of Tennessee and Kentucky received only about 25 percent of normal rainfall. The only areas that saw normal precipitation were in central Indiana and western Ohio.

### TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION – MAR 2003

	TEMPERATURE		PRECIPITATION	
STATION	OBSERVED DEGREES F	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	OBSERVED INCHES	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL
Pittsburgh, PA	40.9	+1.1	1.55	-1.62
Charleston, WV	48.6	+3.3	1.79	-2.11
Columbus, OH	43.3	+1.3	2.22	-0.67
Cincinnati, OH	45.0	+1.1	2.53	-1.37
Louisville, KY	47.7	+0.8	2.25	-2.16
Indianapolis, IN	43.3	+1.6	3.72	+0.28
Evansville, IN	46.8	+0.9	2.60	-1.69
Nashville, TN	52.0	+1.9	2.30	-2.57

**STREAMFLOW** -- Ohio River monthly average flows for March ranged from a low of 90 percent of normal at Huntington, WV to a high of 110 percent of normal at Paducah, KY. Daily flows ranged from a low of 53 percent of normal at Huntington, WV to a high of 187 percent of normal at Paducah, KY.

The following table presents the flow data summary for March at the Ohio River Index Stations:

**FLOW DATA – MAR 2003**

STATION	AVERAGE MONTHLY FLOW	PERCENT LONG-TERM NORMAL		
		MONTHLY	DAILY	
			HIGH	LOW
Pittsburgh, PA	73,400	107	156	67
Huntington, WV	148,000	90	120	53
Cincinnati, OH	198,000	93	133	59
Louisville, KY	240,000	96	165	61
Evansville, IN	292,000	98	180	58
Paducah, KY	571,000	110	187	57

**RESERVOIRS** -- March started with 17.9% utilization of the total system flood control storage and ended the month at 4.5%. System-wide augmentation storage increased from 99% at the beginning of the month to 99.5% by the end of the month. Significant flood storage utilization in excess of 50% occurred at: Mt Morris 60%, Cave Run 56 %; and storage in excess of 25% occurred at eighteen other projects. Several of these projects had excess storage from the rains in February; the remaining were generally in the northeastern areas of the basin as snow melt occurred in March.

The following table depicts storage change by tributary reservoir subsystem for March:

CHANGE IN STORAGE TRIBUTARY-RESERVOIR SUBSYSTEM	(ACRE-FEET)
Allegheny-Monongahela-Beaver	+343,200
Muskingum-Little Kanawha-Hocking-Kanawha-Guyandotte	-186,600
Twelvepole-Big Sandy-Little Sandy-Scioto	-18,500
Little Miami-Licking-Mill Creek-Great Miami	-193,400

Kentucky-Salt-Green-Wabash	-530,000
Cumberland	-1,245,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-1,830,600</b>

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